

# Health News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: Allison Cook, Communications Office 360-236-4022

Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service 360-236-4700

## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Chelan County**

In January 2011 the Surgical Technologist Program granted the application of **Joseph A. Hare** (ST60172788) and placed conditions against his registration. In December 2009 terms and conditions were placed against his health care assistant credential. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

## **Clallam County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Adiah Hoppa-Baines Sutton** (NA60068245) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took \$20 from a patient without permission and failed to respond to department inquiries about the allegation.

## **Clark County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission placed the license of registered nurse **Sylvia L. Kearns** (RN00079572) on probation for five years. She tested positive for alcohol in a workplace breathalyzer test. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

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# **Grant County**

In January 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **David T. Earl** (MD00028611) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard when treating patients, placing the patients at risk of significant harm or death.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registration of **Tia M. Riggs** (NA00187235) and reprimanded her for not complying with conditions on her license.

## **Grays Harbor County**

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Brie A. Biggs** (HC00142885) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly asked co-workers to get prescription drugs for her, and was observed taking pills from a patient.

# **King County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Marissa F. Barroga** (NA00181007) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly neglected a patient by failing to follow up with a toe injury and failing to notify the patient's daughter of the injury.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Kelly L. Brown** (RN60021196) with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of unlawful possession of a controlled substance in 2010. Her license to practice as a registered nurse in Alaska was restricted and she voluntarily surrendered her license to practice as a registered nurse in Arizona.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Buba A.** Ceesay (NC10044920) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of assault — domestic violence, and harassment — domestic violence.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Flor D. Cruz** (RN00076122) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations include failing to act upon changes in vital signs of a patient, failing to perform or chart a proper assessment of the patient, failing to complete an adequate assessment of the patient, failing to notify a physician or other staff of the patient's change in vital signs, and failing to follow up or monitor the patient.

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied the application of chemical dependency professional trainee applicant **David Edward Keyser** (CO60163535). He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion, domestic violence violation of a court order on more than one occasion, assault on more than one occasion, and theft.

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Angela Lynn Pearson** (CO60198200) and placed her certification on probation for two years. She was convicted of three counts of driving under the influence, 10 misdemeanor offenses, theft of motor vehicle fuel, and theft on more than one occasion. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

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In January 2011 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program denied the respiratory care practitioner application and respiratory care practitioner temporary practice permit of **Amy Jo Tobin** (LR60102546, CT60102548). In 2004 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended her license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in Washington. She was arrested for attempting to fraudulently obtain Vicodin and entered into a deferred sentence on attempted violation of the Uniform Controlled Substance Act. She failed to disclose the arrest and related information on her application.

# **Lewis County**

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Nathaniel Troy Yanez** (CO60185708) and placed his certification on probation for two years. He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion, and assault. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

# **Mason County**

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Chelsea Elizabeth Cornwall-Brady** (CO60197989) and placed her certification on probation for two years. She was convicted of attempted prescription fraud in 2005. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

# **Pend Oreille County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Bowdeen Mac Arthur** (NC10081499) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of vehicular manslaughter in 2010.

# **Pierce County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant and Health Care Assistant Programs charged **Newhonli Ben** (NC10068527, HC00152738) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took credit cards from co-workers without permission, and used them for her own benefit or gain.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **La Shell D. Ives** (NC10070586) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to follow a patient's care plan, tripped the patient, and struck the patient in the abdominal area.

In January 2011 the Board of Pharmacy denied the pharmacy assistant application of **Semjon Vitalyevich Litvin** (VB60131908). He was convicted of minor buy, sell, possess of liquor in 2007; driving under the influence on more than one occasion; and obstructing a public servant/false statement in 2009.

## **Snohomish County**

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In January 2011 the Nursing Commission amended the statement of charges against licensed practical nurse **Rosemary Barrett** (LP00046312). She allegedly signed out drugs for multiple patients but failed to document administration or wastage of the drugs. She allegedly diverted the drugs for her own personal use. She was convicted of driving under the influence in 2009 and theft in 2010.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registration of **Lisa M. Ewing** (NA00108164).

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Richard Alan Larue** (CO60174460) and placed his certification on probation for two years. He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion, and failed to disclose the convictions on his application. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

In January 2011 the Midwifery Program reinstated the license of **Janine M. Tafari**, also known as Janine M. Walker, (MW00000209) and placed her license in expired status. She may apply to reactivate her license.

### **Spokane County**

In January 2011 the Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System Programs charged emergency medical technician **William Banks** (ES01176207) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of third degree child rape in 2010.

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program granted the application of **Mindy M. Hinshaw** (HC60165640) and placed her license on probation for two years. She was convicted of solicitation to possess a controlled substance in 2007. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at http://www.doh.wa.gov for a healthy dose of information.